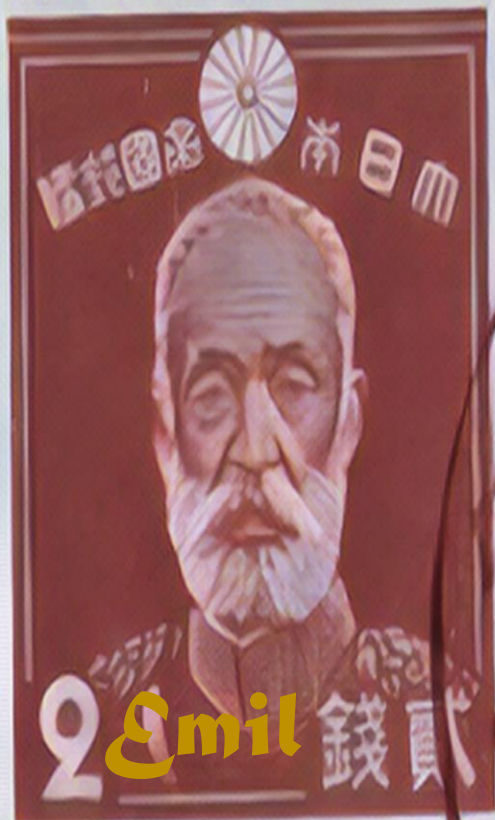




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The Central Military Council of China faced a significant dilemma following Japan's capitulation in 1945.

A critical issue that remained largely unaddressed by both the Nationalist Government and the 1,000 military advisors present in the China Theater of Operations was the existence of a formidable and well-equipped Japanese Army that remained intact. Intelligence analysts estimated that this force could comprise as many as 1.5 million soldiers, all of whom had pledged their lives and resources to uphold the honor of their Emperor and, by extension, their nation. The reluctance to openly confront

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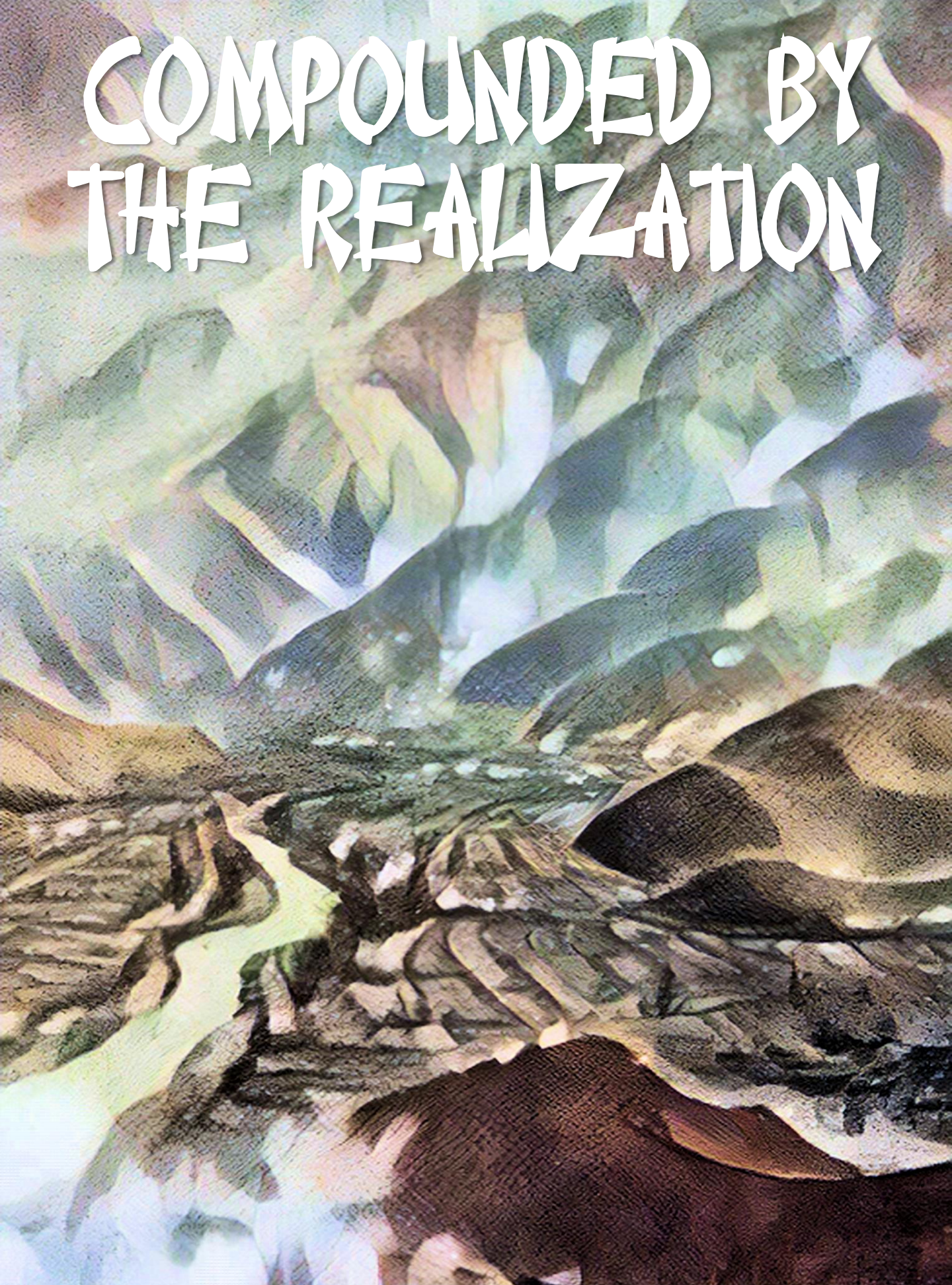


this reality underscored the complexities of the post-war landscape in East Asia.

The soldiers in question were thoroughly seasoned in combat, effectively led, and possessed sufficient logistical support for their armaments, enabling them to sustain operations in the field for nearly an additional year.

This assessment is corroborated by data subsequently provided by the Japanese Quartermaster General of the Chinese Expedition Army. Numerous soldiers, particularly those within the junior officer ranks, dedicated a significant portion of

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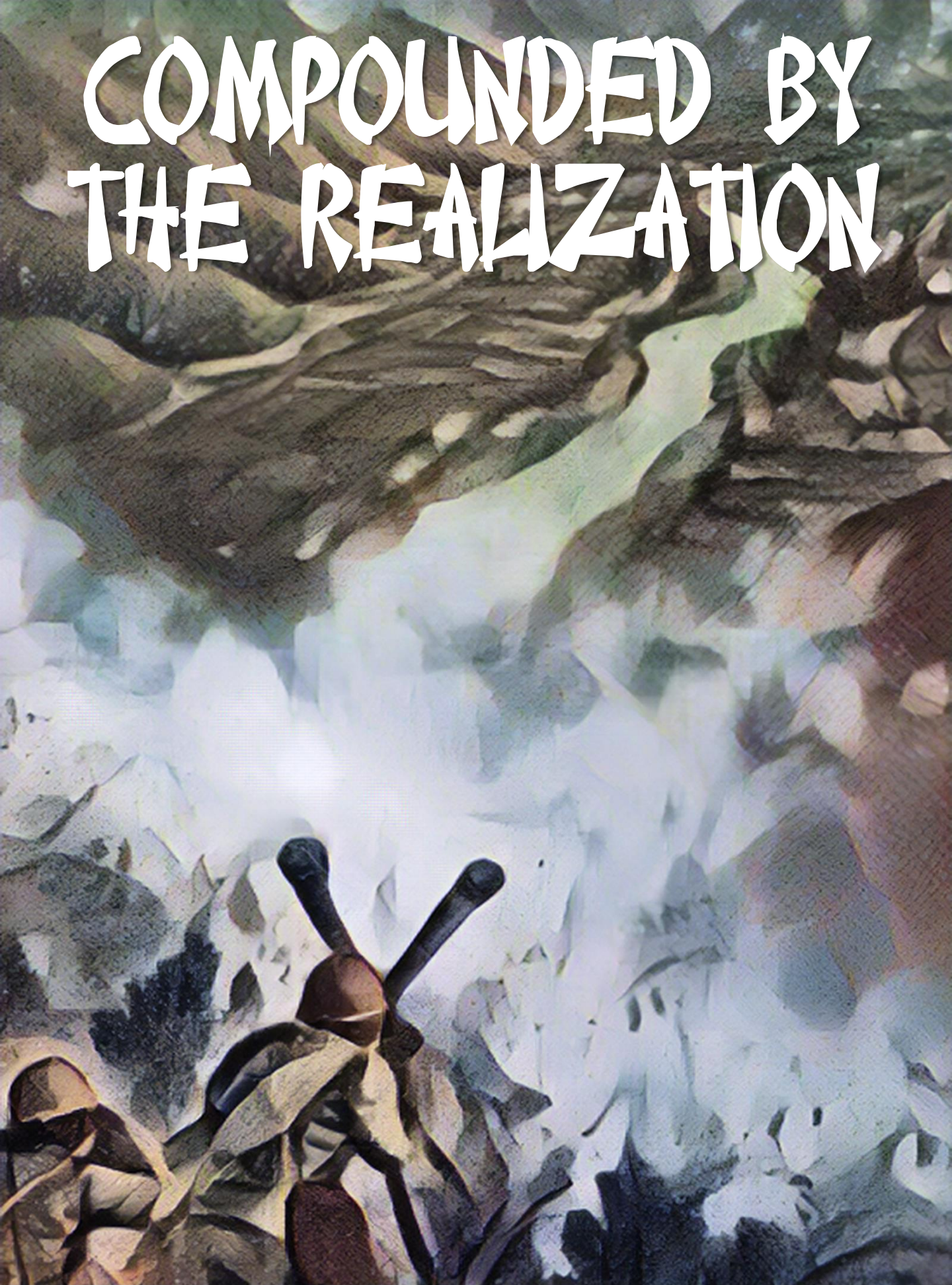
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their formative years to combat in  
China.

For some, this commitment  
extended to nearly a decade of  
continuous warfare, while a handful  
of the more seasoned veterans  
retained clear memories of their  
firsthand experiences during the  
Battle of the Marco Polo Bridge.  
This pivotal confrontation is widely  
regarded by historians as the catalyst  
that ignited the ongoing conflict.  
It is reasonable to assert that these  
soldiers possessed a greater number  
of memories associated with China  
than they could remember from their  
native land.

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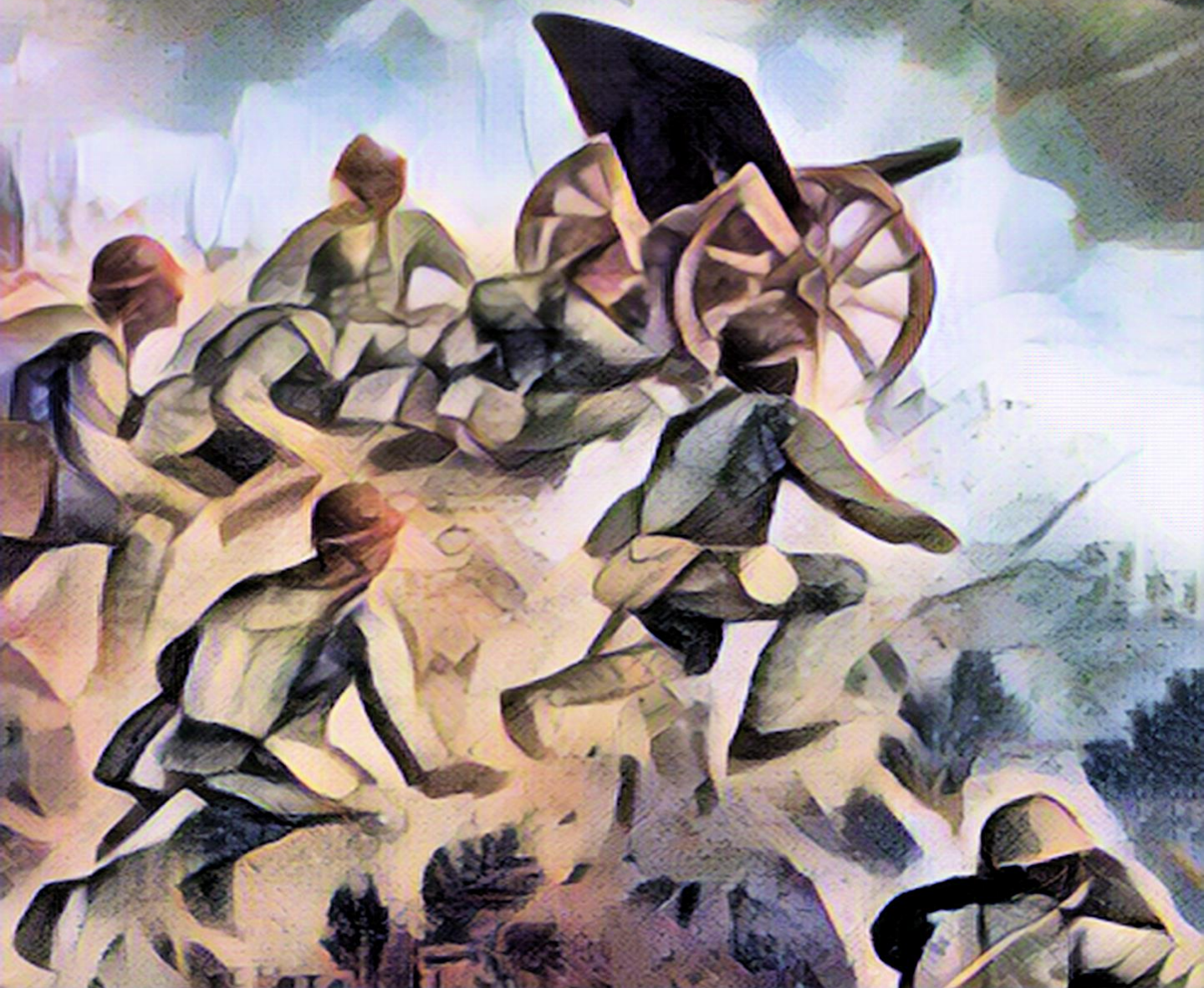
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The Chinese High Command faced a significant dilemma during a time when the nation was jubilantly celebrating Japan's surrender. Despite the prevailing atmosphere of triumph, there was a profound apprehension regarding a multitude of emerging uncertainties and their potential ramifications across military, political, and social spheres. This concern was compounded by the realization that, according to certain Japanese census data from 1945, approximately six million Japanese colonialists had established their lives in China. Many of these individuals were not

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first-generation settlers; rather, they were second or third generation, a consequence of Japan's long-standing initiative aimed at repopulating strategically important regions of the Chinese territory. This program had been in effect for nearly fifty years by 1945, further complicating the Chinese leadership's strategic planning in the wake of Japan's defeat. Japan's military triumph in the First Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895) marked a significant turning point in its colonial strategy, leading to the systematic relocation of surplus Japanese citizens to the territories it

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had occupied.

This migration was primarily motivated by the desire to enhance commercial activities and agricultural productivity in these regions, thereby establishing a favorable environment for Japanese settlers.

By positioning its citizens in these overseas colonies, Japan aimed not only to consolidate its influence but also to encourage further migration, thereby reinforcing its demographic and economic foothold in these newly acquired lands.

The implementation of these measures alleviated the demographic strain within Japan, bolstered the

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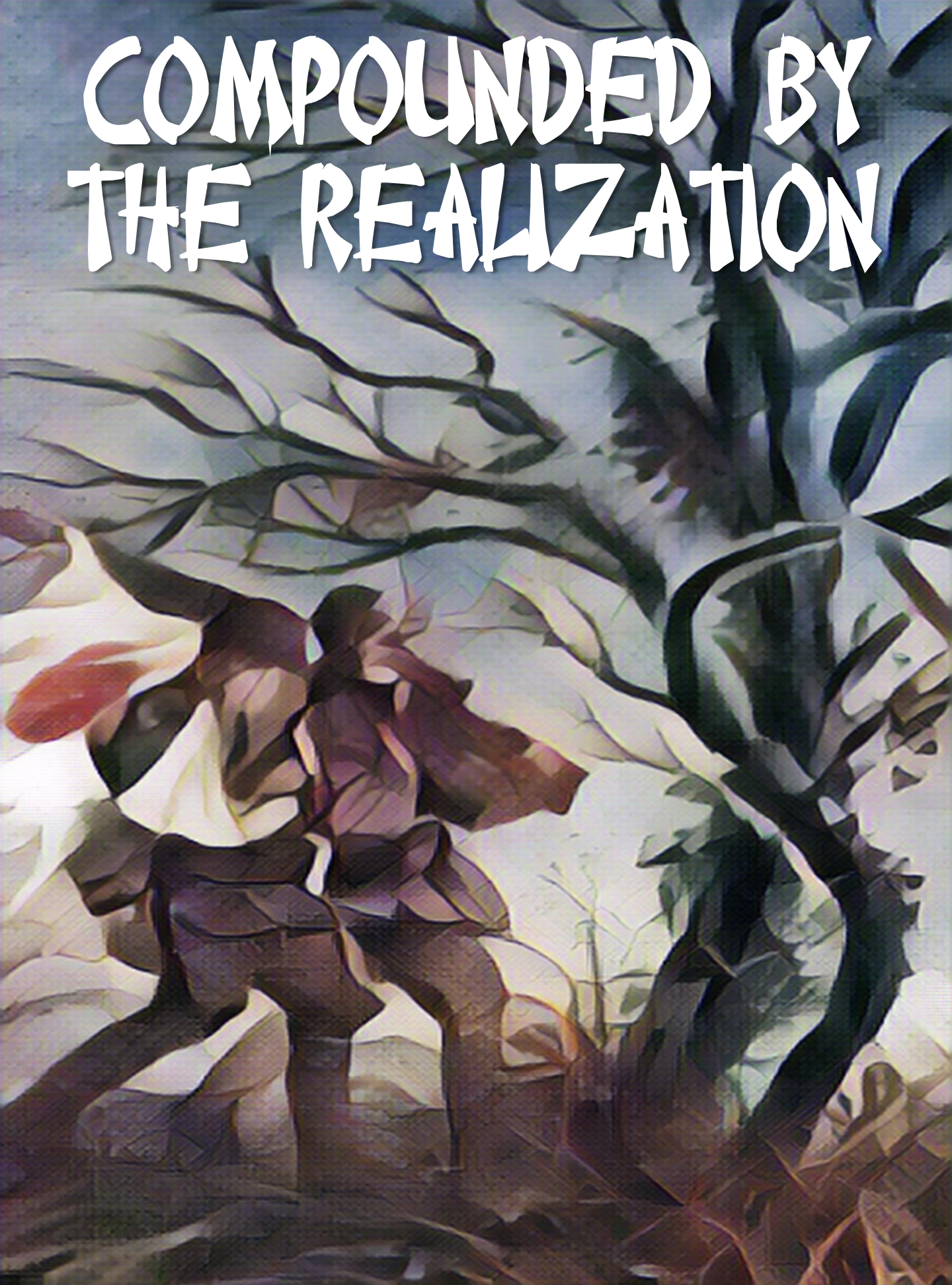


national economy, and enhanced the mechanisms of social governance in its colonial territories.

Although they constituted a minority, they wielded significant influence over a substantial portion of food distribution across China, as well as possessing control over numerous manufacturing facilities essential for the reconstruction efforts of the newly established Chinese National Government.

Their strategic position allowed them to play a crucial role in the nation's recovery, as these facilities were vital for producing the goods and resources necessary to revitalize the

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economy and infrastructure in the post-war context.

The culmination of their efforts has resulted in the dominance of both domestic and international trade, a situation that arose following their expulsion of the English from Hong Kong and the Americans, notably the FDR family, who had significant investments in the Chinese insurance sector and substantial real estate holdings in Shanghai's International Quarter.

The senior Allied Advisors reassured the Chinese leaders that the Japanese soldiers would comply with their emperor's directive to

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surrender. They emphasized the importance of focusing on the restoration of order in major Chinese cities to avert potential anarchy or communist insurrections.

The contemplation of "what if?" weighed heavily on their minds, as numerous potential misfortunes loomed, with a single incident, akin to the Japanese provocation that ignited the conflict at the Marco Polo Bridge, capable of triggering significant consequences.

Numerous senior Chinese Nationalist Leaders recognized that even one incident involving an enraged group of Chinese civilians retaliating against

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Japanese farms or businesses could ignite a widespread uprising.

They were acutely aware that they lacked the necessary military strength to control such a situation, as the majority of the Nationalist Army remained engaged in a protracted civil conflict with the Communists in the North, as well as facing challenges from bandits and warlords in the West.

In the northeastern region of China, the Communist forces received substantial military support in the form of advanced weaponry provided by their Soviet allies. This influx of arms enabled the

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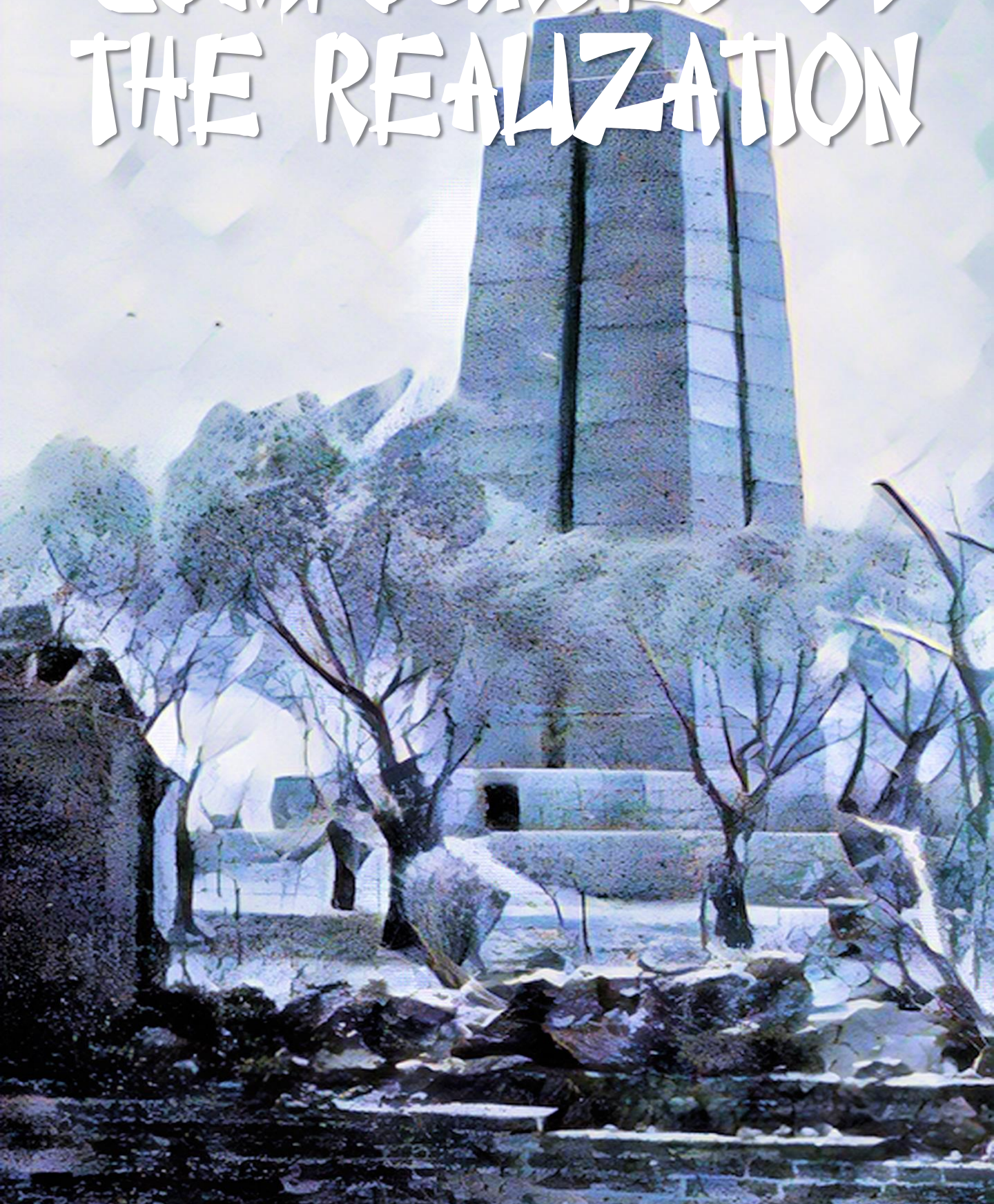
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Communists to undergo a significant reorganization, thereby enhancing their capacity to challenge the National Government effectively. Capitalizing on the apparent disarray and lack of preparedness exhibited by the Nationalists in their attempts to restore order, the Communists sought to exploit this vulnerability. With the backing of a formidable Soviet presence that had established control over extensive territories in the north, including the resource-rich regions of Manchuria and Northern Korea, the Communists launched a concerted offensive aimed directly at the beleaguered Nationalist lines.

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It is important to acknowledge that, during the preceding two decades, China experienced a significant absence of a centralized government, as the nation was fragmented into numerous small kingdoms, each governed by local warlords.

These warlords were primarily preoccupied with their own conflicts and rivalries, often prioritizing their battles against one another over the pressing threat posed by the Japanese invaders.

This context highlights the challenges faced by the Nationalists in their efforts to unify the country and establish a stable governance



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structure amidst the prevailing chaos  
of a sudden Japanese Surrender.

The most undesirable situation for  
them would be the emergence of 6  
million Japanese Colonials who were  
unwilling to vacate the residences  
and enterprises that they had  
nurtured and sustained over multiple  
generations.

The disarmament of Japanese  
soldiers was progressing steadily;  
however, the potential for violence  
against the Colonialists posed a  
significant risk.

Such acts could provoke a rogue field  
commander to resist the  
demobilization process, potentially

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inciting them to rally their troops and resume hostilities in defense of their compatriots.

This scenario highlighted the precarious balance between maintaining order during disarmament and the underlying tensions that could easily escalate into renewed conflict.

The Nationalists recognized that should a widespread uprising occur, their ability to retain authority would be severely compromised.

Furthermore, the prospect of the Communists negotiating an alliance with the Japanese Colonialists posed an even greater threat, potentially



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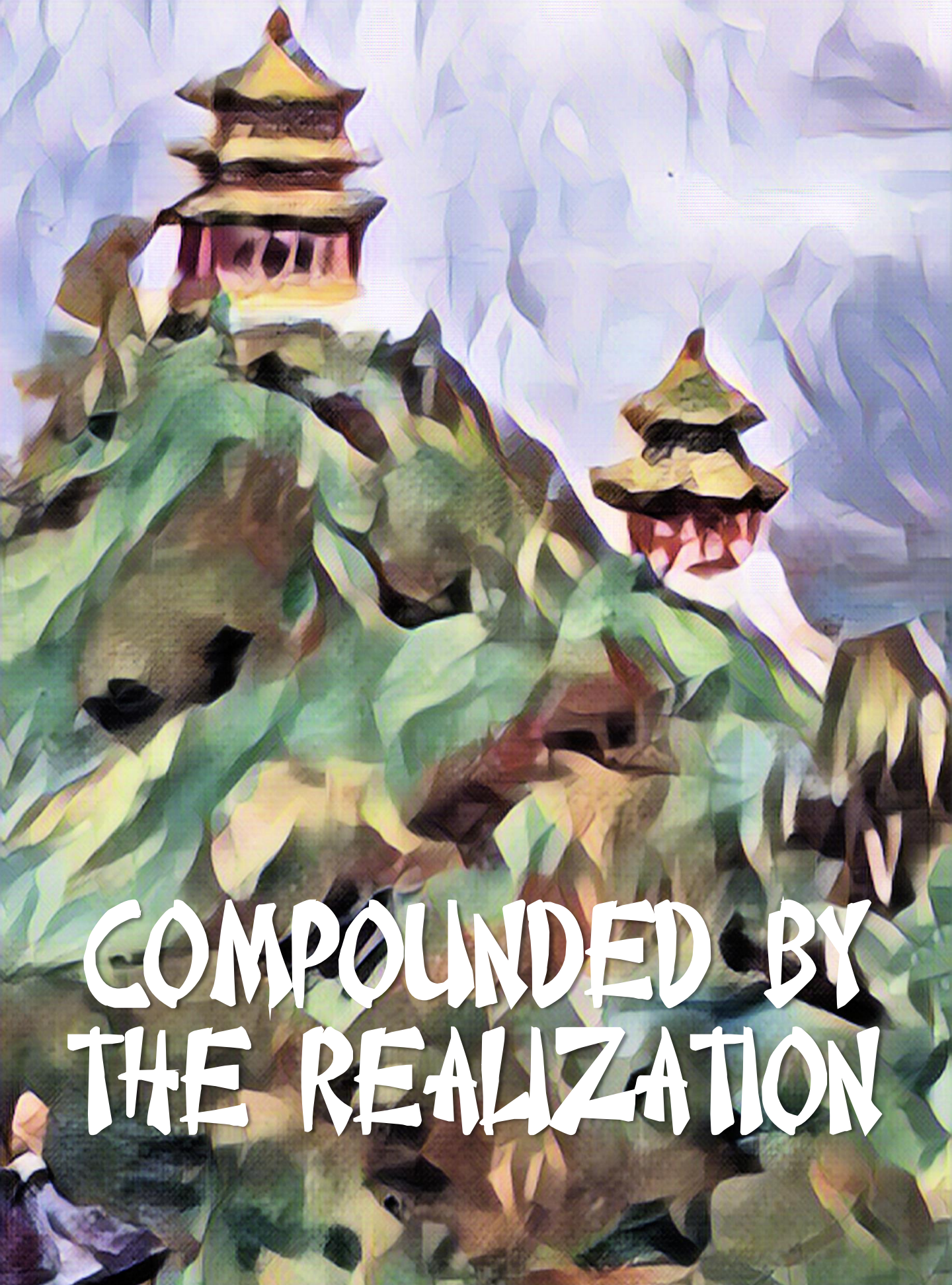


leading to their defeat and subsequent retreat into the remote Western Deserts or the rugged foothills of the Himalayas.

This scenario underscored the precariousness of their position and the dire consequences that could ensue from a failure to address the growing discontent among the populace.

Allied Advisor dismissed these apprehensions as utterly irrational, failing to comprehend that the Chinese had misrepresented the scale of their military forces.

This oversight occurred despite ongoing speculation regarding the



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existence of substantial, illusory  
armies, which were purportedly  
being funded through the salaries  
provided by Allied Military Foreign  
Aid.

The disconnect between perception  
and reality highlights a significant gap  
in intelligence and understanding,  
ultimately undermining the  
effectiveness of the Allied efforts in  
the region.

Allied observers were acutely  
cognizant of the pervasive corruption  
and disarray within the local  
Nationalist Administration, which  
audaciously asserted control over  
cities that they had not even set foot



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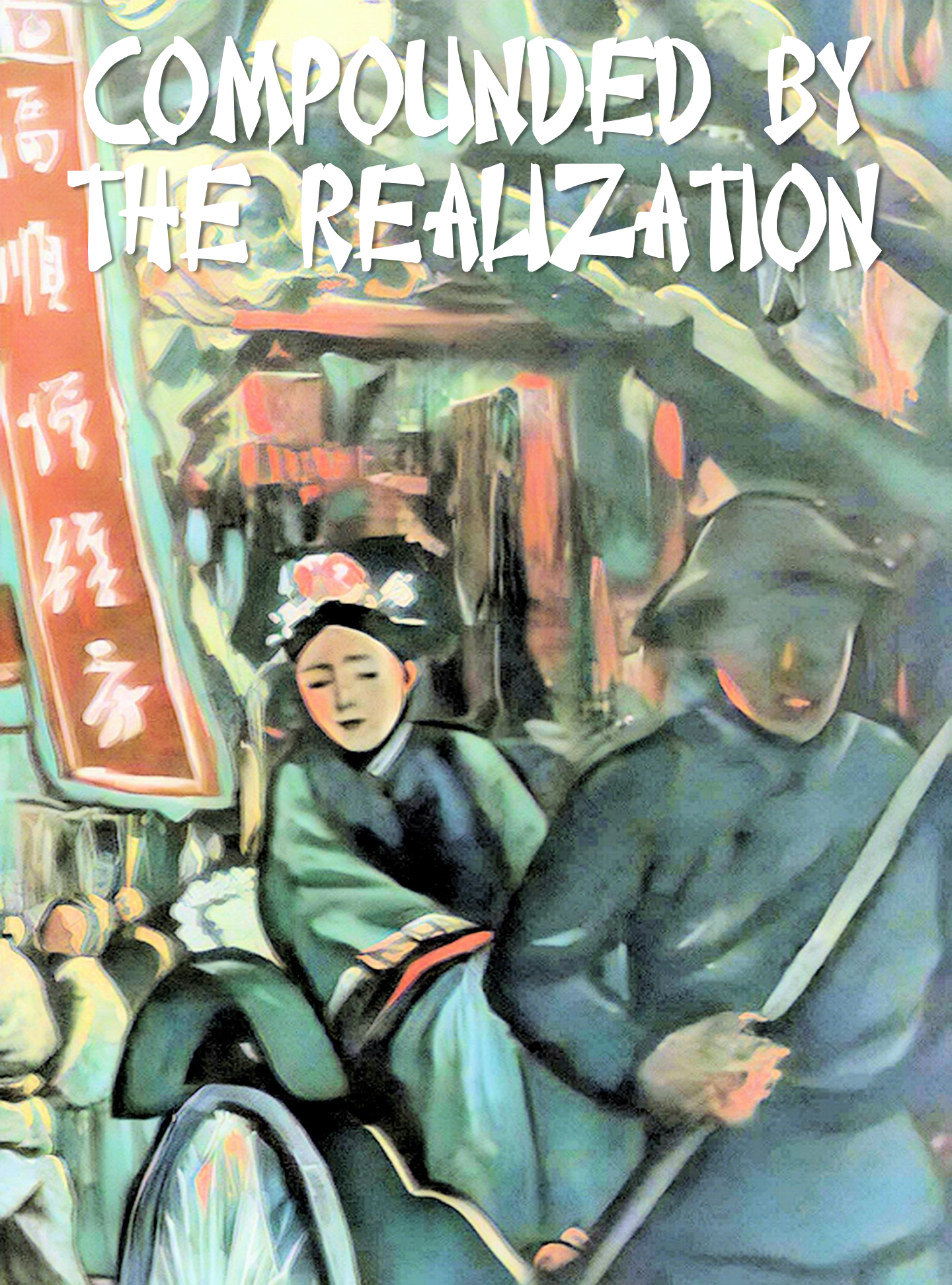
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in since the onset of the conflict. This situation is further exacerbated by the historical context of the war in China, which can be traced back to the early 1930s, specifically from 1932 to 1934, depending on the international incident one considers as the initial catalyst for hostilities.

The absence of a Nationalist Administration in these local regions since 1932 suggests that even the most compromised Allied Advisor would likely concede the point that the Nationalists were unlikely to reclaim authority over China. This prolonged lack of governance by the Nationalists indicates a

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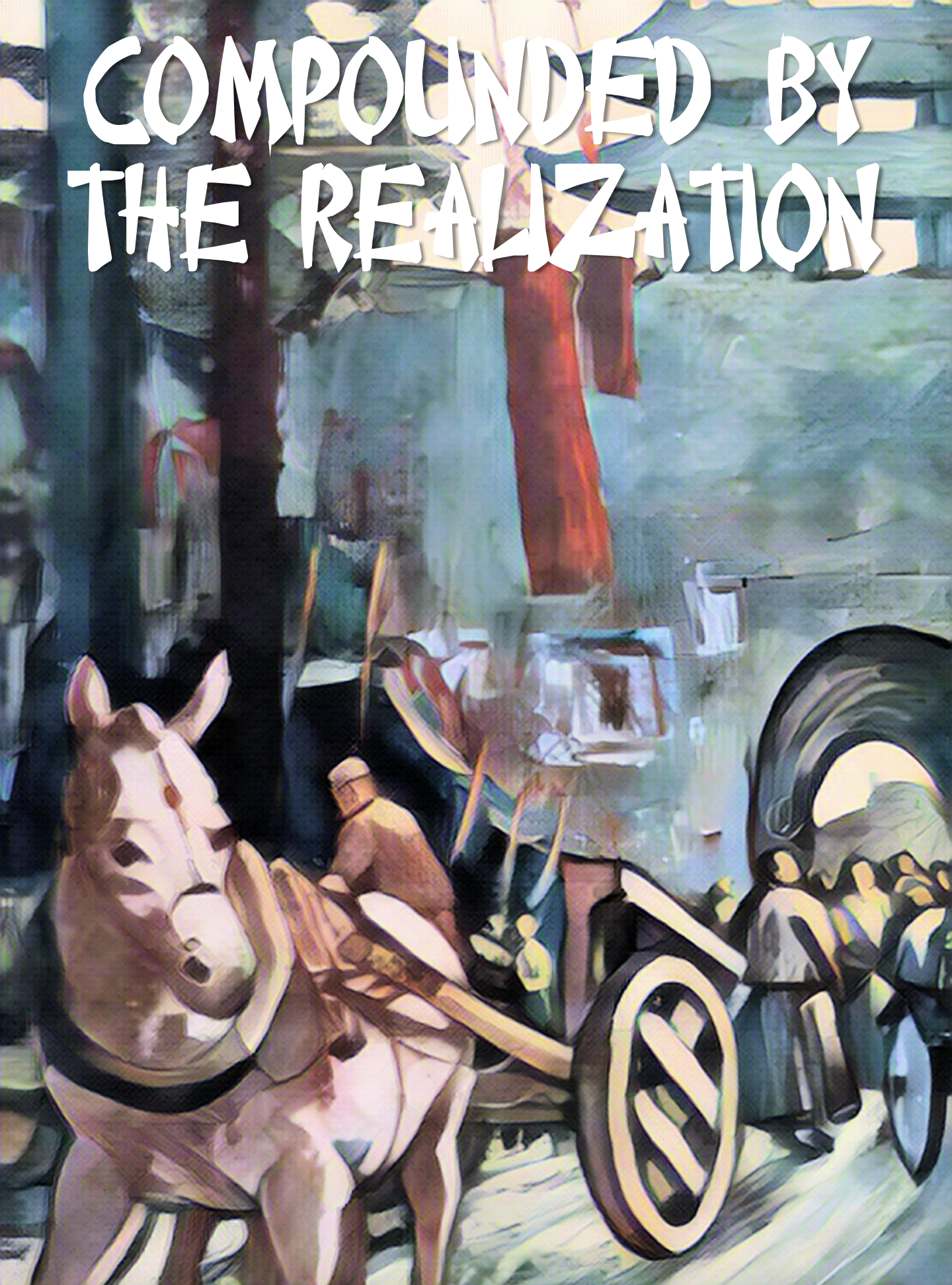


significant shift in the political landscape, rendering any prospects of their resurgence increasingly improbable.

The historical context underscores the challenges faced by the Nationalists, as their inability to establish a foothold in these areas has effectively diminished their chances of reasserting control over the nation as a whole.

On September 9th, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, the head of the Nationalist Government, utilized the newly formed China Radio Network to communicate directly with the Chinese populace.

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In his address, he urged the citizens to temper their emotions and refrain from seeking vengeance against the withdrawing Japanese soldiers and the vast number of Japanese colonizers.

He emphasized the importance of maintaining composure and unity during this tumultuous period, imploring the Chinese people to focus on healing rather than harboring resentment.

*"My fellow Chinese would know that not bearing grudges and being kind to others is a noble and valuable characteristic in the tradition of our people. We have always said that*

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*only militaristic Japanese warlords are our enemies; the people of Japan are not our enemies. Today, the enemy troops have been defeated by our allies, and we will of course strictly ensure that all terms of surrender are enforced. However, we do not want revenge, nor should we humiliate the innocent people of our enemy country. We can only commiserate with how they were manipulated and driven out by their Nazi warlords, so that they can extricate themselves from mistakes and transgressions. If we respond with violence to our enemies' past violence, and respond with insults to*



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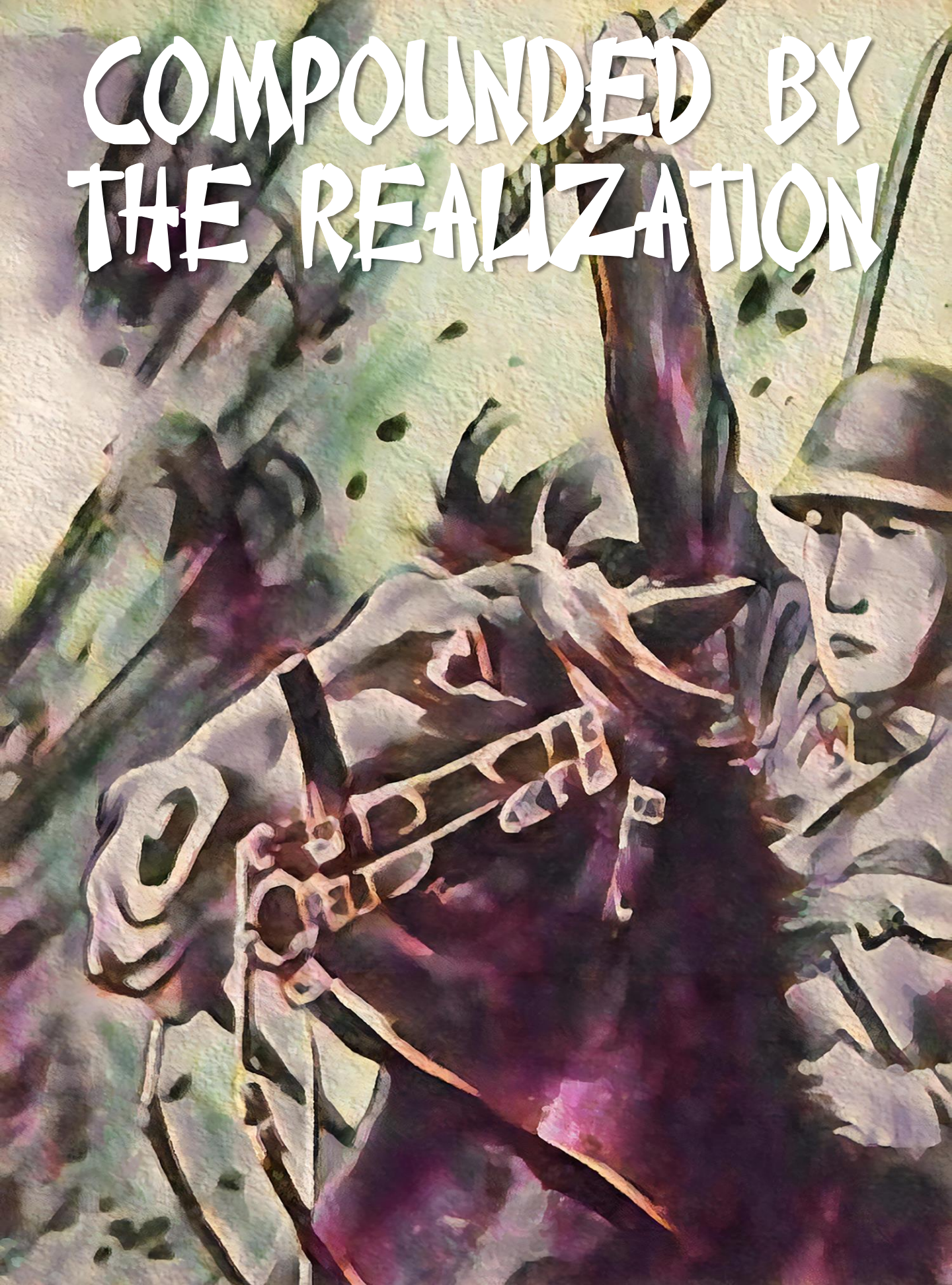


*their previous mistaken sense of superiority, that will lead to an unending feud, which is definitely not what our forefathers would want. This is what each one of us needs to be aware of today."*

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek devised a strategy aimed at facilitating the rapid repatriation of demobilized soldiers by providing them with support for their journey to coastal ports, where Allied vessels stood ready to transport them home.

Concurrently, he undertook the establishment of large transit holding facilities and urged local officials, along with Japanese colonial

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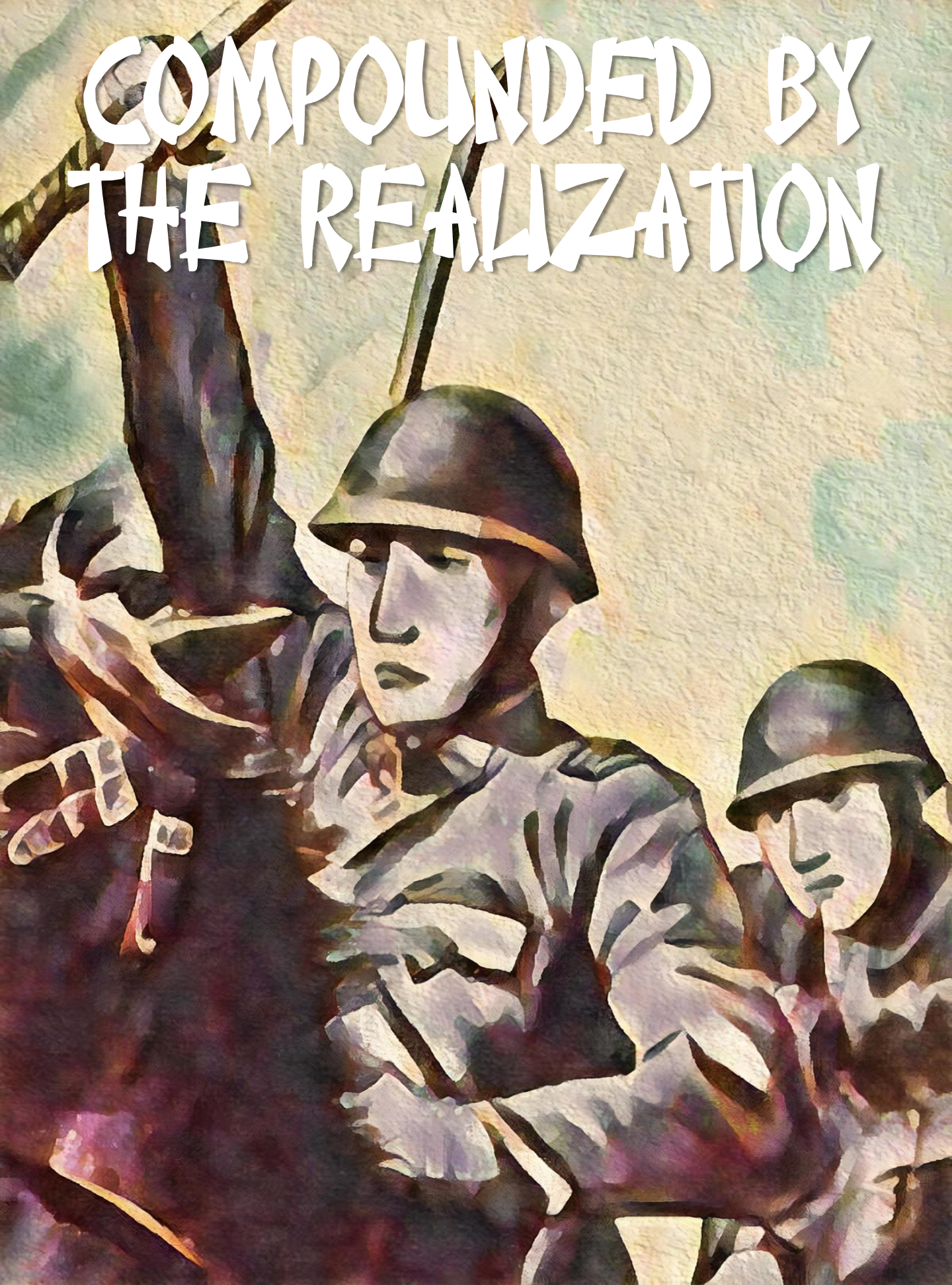
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authorities, to gather their communities at these centers. They were informed that this was the sole means through which the Nationalist Government could ensure their safety from vengeful Chinese mobs intent on retribution. In October 1945, a fleeting reference in Life Magazine caught my attention, detailing an account involving a representative from the Chinese military who conducted an inspection of a Japanese camp prior to the detainees' relocation to a concentration facility. This brief mention encapsulated a significant moment in the historical

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context of post-war interactions and the complexities surrounding the treatment of Japanese individuals during this tumultuous period. The narrative not only highlights the role of the Chinese army in the aftermath of World War II but also raises questions about the broader implications of such inspections and the fate of those involved.

The article discusses Chiang Kai-shek's "coals of fire" policy, which aimed to promote a sense of Chinese humanity amidst the devastation caused by Japanese forces.

It highlights a significant assertion made by the Chinese General, who



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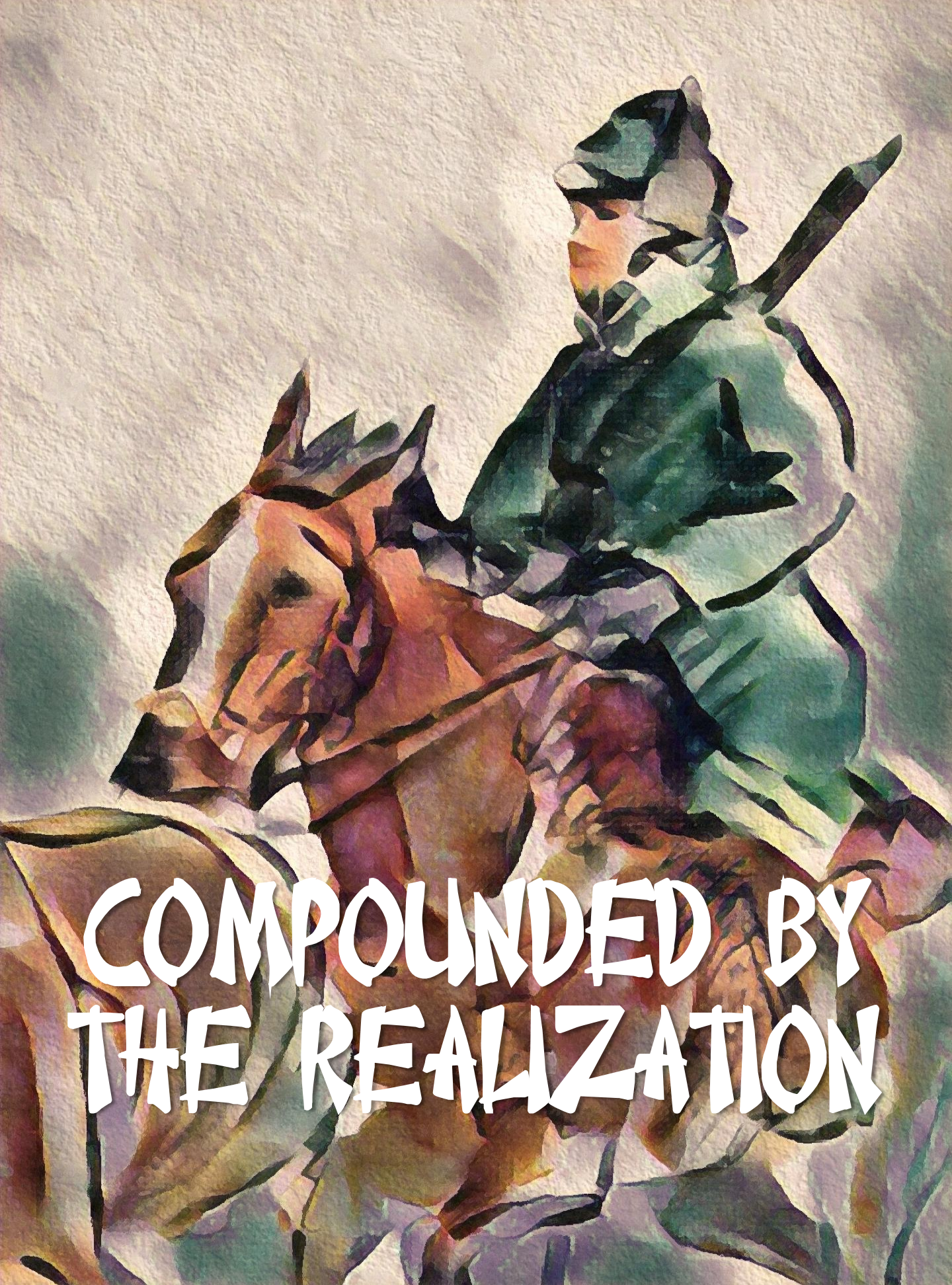


emphasized that, despite the extensive loss of life and property inflicted upon China by the Japanese military, Chinese soldiers did not regard unarmed Japanese troops as adversaries.

This perspective reflects a broader philosophical stance that prioritizes compassion and moral integrity, even in the face of overwhelming adversity.

The article described a recently demobilized Japanese officer who greeted the Chinese General with what was characterized as a cordial smile.

The conclusion of the article



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presented a sentiment that leaned more towards optimism than reality, stating, "Both sides soon established a rapport, a scenario that seems implausible in the aftermath of World War II."

A nationally distributed newsreel was shown in movie theaters throughout the United States, reinforcing the findings presented by Life Magazine. This footage depicted Japanese Colonists in Nanking as they gathered their possessions in anticipation of being relocated to internment camps. Accompanying this visual narrative was a voice-over that stated, "In accordance with the



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Allies' policy, all Japanese individuals were to be repatriated.

They were permitted to carry only 30 kilograms of personal items and a small amount of cash, while any valuables were strictly prohibited.”

Numerous prominent Chinese scholars of contemporary times concur that the underlying strategy was, at best, a poorly conceived initiative that operated under the assumption that the arrival of Japanese colonialists in these internment camps would lead to a swift realization of their untenable situation.

The plan anticipated that, after being

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divested of their assets—permitted entry into the camps with only minimal clothing and a small amount of cash—along with the forced liquidation of their land and businesses, which they had cultivated over generations, the majority of the colonists would recognize the futility of remaining in China.

Consequently, it was expected that they would eagerly appeal to Chinese authorities for repatriation to their countries of origin.

Ultimately, the program achieved its objectives, resulting in a significant number of Japanese individuals

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repatriating to their homeland in the subsequent years.

In contrast, many of the colonial returnees faced the harsh reality of returning to a devastated homeland, a place that was largely unfamiliar to the younger generations of colonials. This narrative, however, is intricately layered and has largely faded from collective memory, often omitted from standard history curricula, leaving a gap in the understanding of this complex historical context.

It is essential to elucidate the circumstances surrounding Northern China, Manchuria, and Northern Korea, particularly in relation to the

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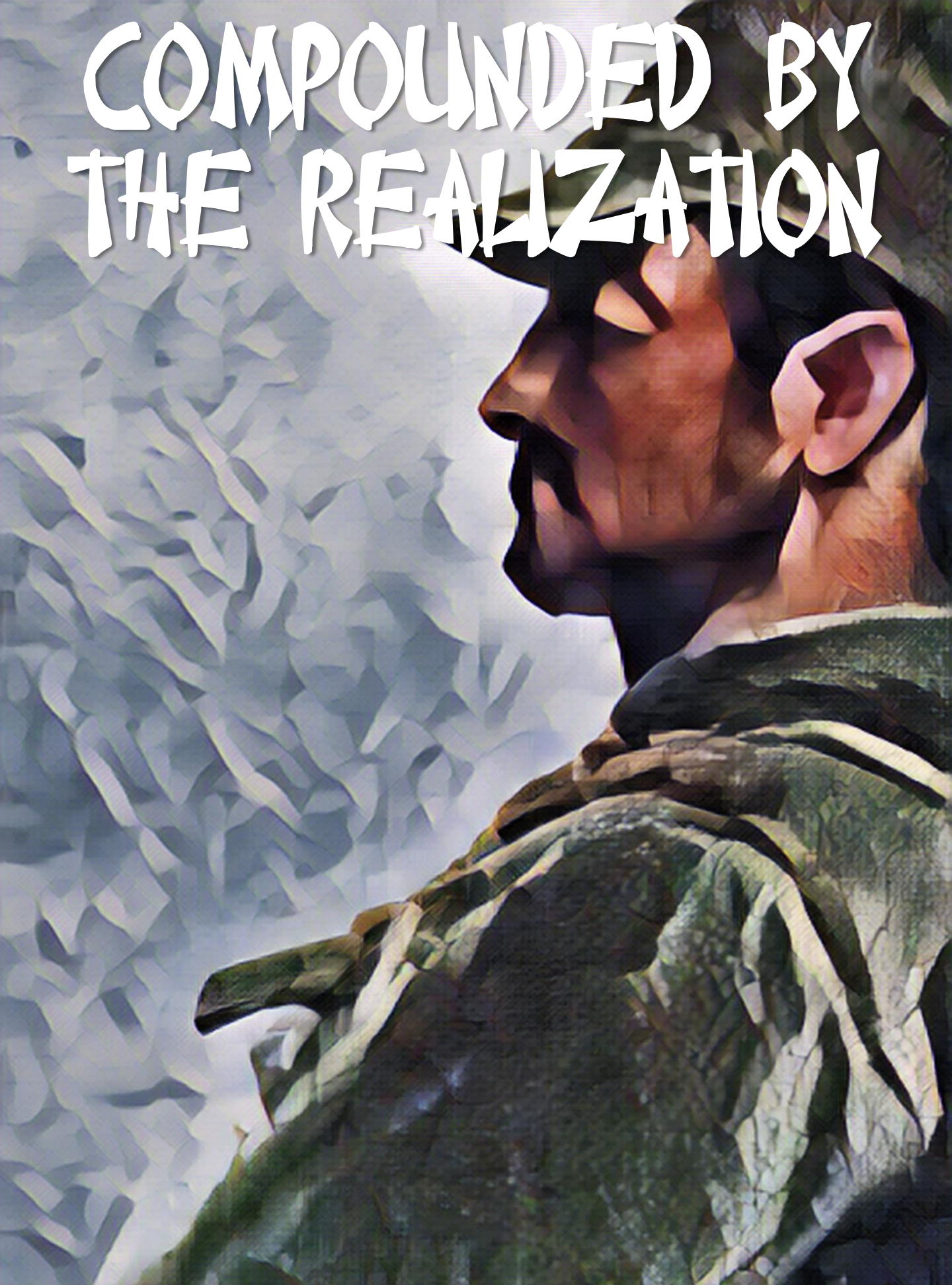
fate of the Northern Japanese Army.

This region has been historically significant due to its geopolitical dynamics and the interactions among various powers.

The Northern Japanese Army, which was actively engaged in military operations in these territories, faced a series of challenges that ultimately influenced its strategic position and operational effectiveness.

Understanding the complexities of this situation requires an examination of the socio-political landscape, military engagements, and the broader implications of these events on regional stability and

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international relations.

It is often overlooked by many that the historical context of northeast China was significantly more intricate than is commonly perceived today.

Japan had a historical practice of methodically resettling inhabitants from agricultural communities, designating them as "pioneers," with the objective of cultivating new agricultural land in the distant region of Manchuria.

The Japanese Government's strategy was intricately designed to assert its sovereignty through the systematic depopulation of the local Chinese population, thereby facilitating the

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establishment of fortified  
settlements.

These settlements were routinely supplied with military weapons and equipment by the Japanese Army, which also extended military training to select community members.

This initiative aimed to create a supplementary civilian force that could support the occupying Japanese troops during emergencies. However, this plan ultimately proved unsuccessful, mirroring the broader failures of the Army's efforts to mitigate the threat of a potential Soviet invasion.

The Northern Army Command faced

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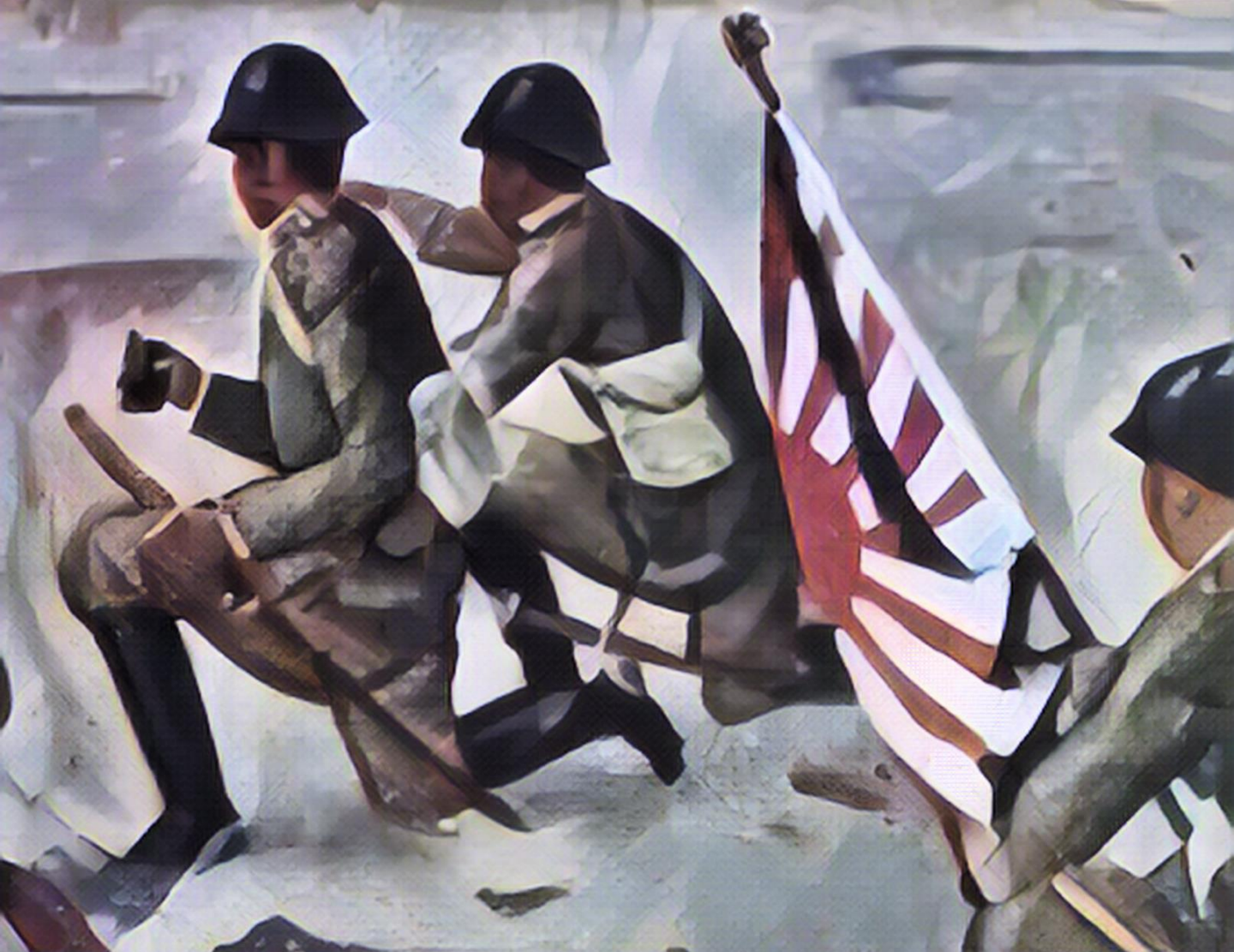


an overwhelming onslaught from a formidable Soviet force, which advanced with such rapidity that the command was left with insufficient time to implement their strategic plans or to establish any substantial defense.

Consequently, the situation deteriorated swiftly, leading to a complete disintegration of their operational capabilities and a collapse of organized resistance.

In previous years, the Japanese maintained covert agreements with the Communist factions, stipulating that if the Communists respected Japanese interests in Manchuria and

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the northern enclaves, the Japanese military would refrain from interference.

This arrangement enabled the Communists to concentrate the majority of its forces primarily on the civil conflict against the Nationalists, thereby allowing the Communists to operate with relative autonomy in their designated territories.

The absence of a formal conflict does not imply a lack of resistance; rather, there existed a persistent guerrilla warfare campaign directed against the Japanese occupation.

This campaign was spearheaded by various localized factions, including

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groups of bandits, ousted warlords,  
and dissident units from the  
Communist Party.

These factions actively opposed the  
clandestine agreements established  
by the Communist Central  
Committee, demonstrating a  
complex landscape of resistance that  
was characterized by its  
decentralized and multifaceted  
nature.

Although often portrayed with  
significant embellishment in post-  
war literature, films, and subsequent  
television productions, these  
conflicts were, in reality, localized  
military engagements that involved a

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limited number of fighters from both  
opposing sides.

Nevertheless, both parties were  
acutely aware that, should the  
chance arise, either would not  
hesitate to deliver a decisive and  
potentially devastating blow to the  
other.

It is difficult to argue otherwise; the  
absence of affection or trust  
between them was unmistakable.  
The presence of a substantial Soviet  
military contingent positioned in  
close proximity, coupled with the  
Soviets' readiness to transfer the vast  
quantities of military equipment  
received through the land-lease

An abstract painting featuring a central face-like form composed of various shades of green, orange, and pink, surrounded by dark, textured foliage in shades of brown, black, and purple. The overall style is expressive and painterly.

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program from the perceived naivety of American capitalists, led the Communists to conclude that there was little necessity to incorporate the Japanese military into their ongoing civil conflict against the Nationalists.

This strategic decision was primarily influenced by the availability of resources and support from the Soviet Union, which rendered the integration of Japanese forces largely redundant, except for the recruitment of specialized personnel in technical and medical fields. Japanese technicians and medical personnel were presented with a

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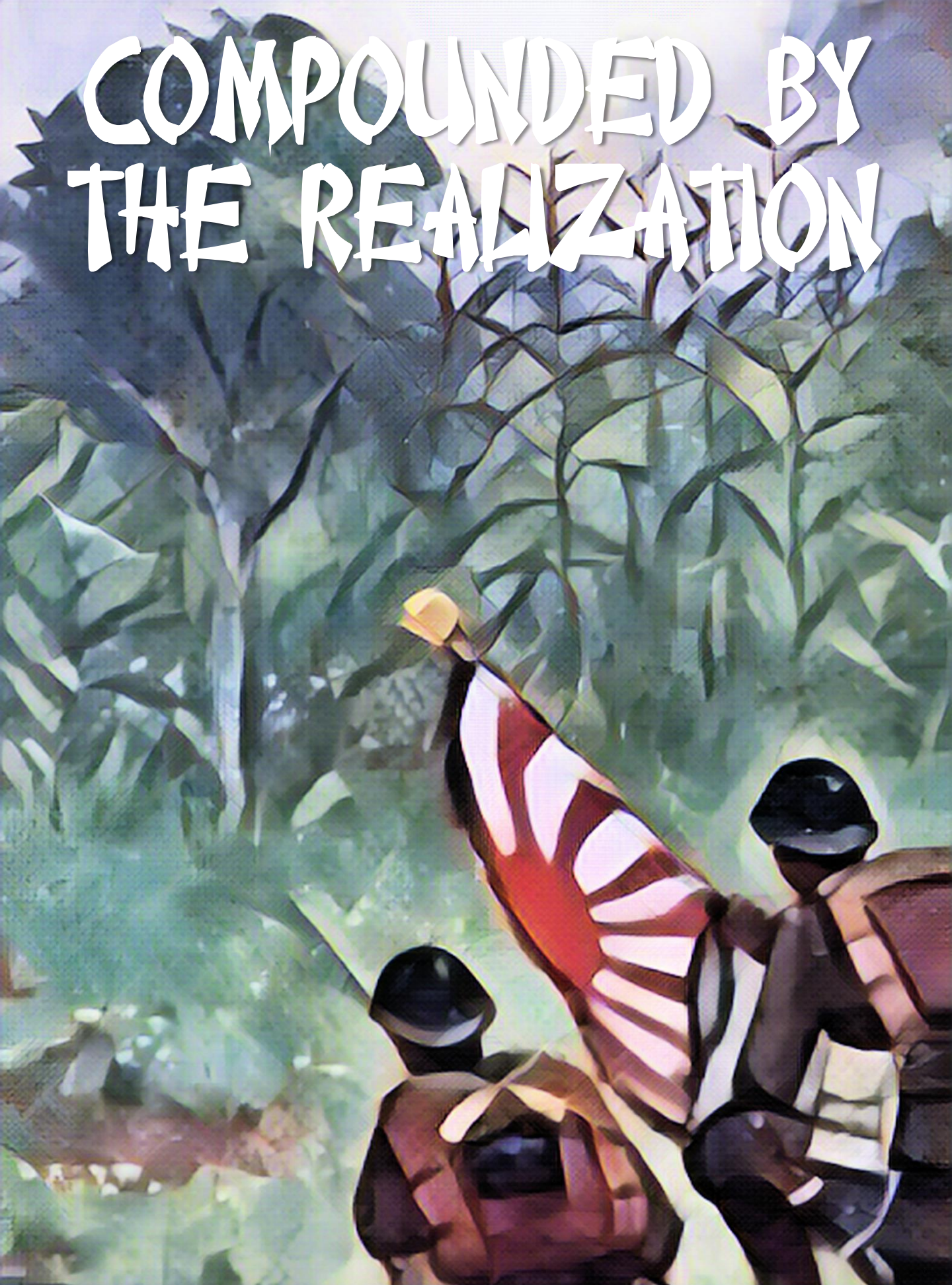
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stark decision: they could either maintain their current roles within the framework of the People's Army or face a punitive sentence of ten years of arduous labor in Siberia. This dilemma posed a significant moral and professional challenge, compelling individuals to weigh the implications of their choices against the backdrop of their responsibilities and the potential consequences of dissent.

The gravity of such a decision underscores the complexities faced by those in positions of service during times of conflict, where loyalty, survival, and ethical

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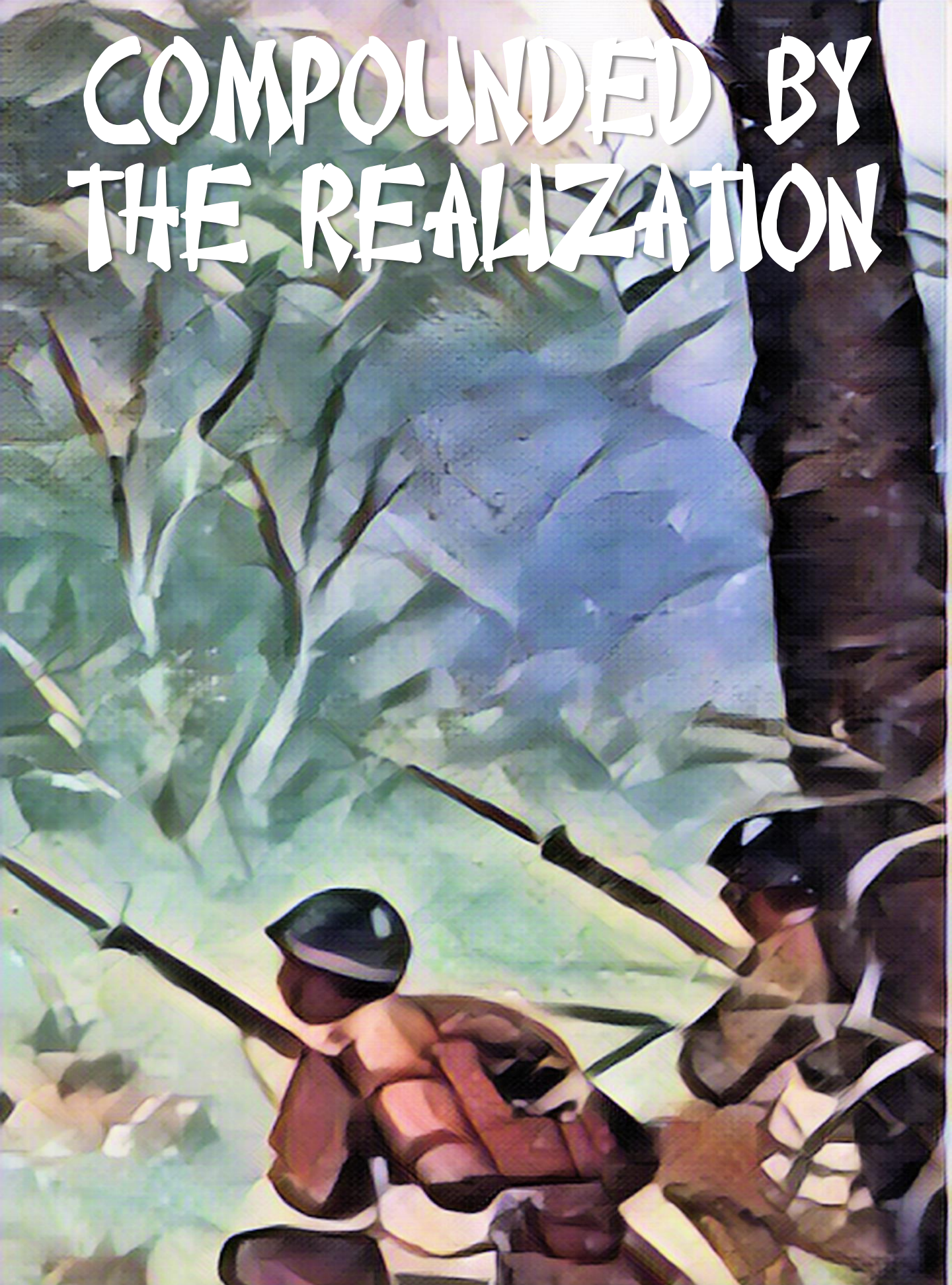


considerations intersect in profound ways.

The consensus among the Soviets and Communists was that the Japanese Army stationed in Northern China could not be disbanded and allowed to operate independently. The prevailing concern was that this military force remained a significant threat, possessing the potential to regroup and reconstitute itself as an active combat unit, thereby presenting considerable security risks to the region.

The arrangement stipulated that the Communist authorities would selectively choose the specialists

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required for their objectives, while the remaining individuals would be subjected to a decade-long imprisonment for their alleged war crimes.

These individuals would be consigned to labor camps alongside the Nazi collaborators, which were dispersed throughout Siberia, as part of Stalin's lesser-known 19-year initiative aimed at revitalizing the region.

The approximately one million Japanese civilians dispersed throughout Manchuria faced a dire predicament as they were abandoned to navigate their

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circumstances independently.  
Previously reliant on the support of  
the Japanese military for essential  
services such as security,  
transportation, logistics, and the  
provision and marketing of  
agricultural goods, these individuals  
experienced a stark reversal of  
fortune.

Once enjoying a status of privilege  
within Manchuria, they were  
suddenly thrust into a challenging  
and precarious existence,  
highlighting the dramatic shift in  
their living conditions and the loss of  
the support systems that had  
previously sustained them.

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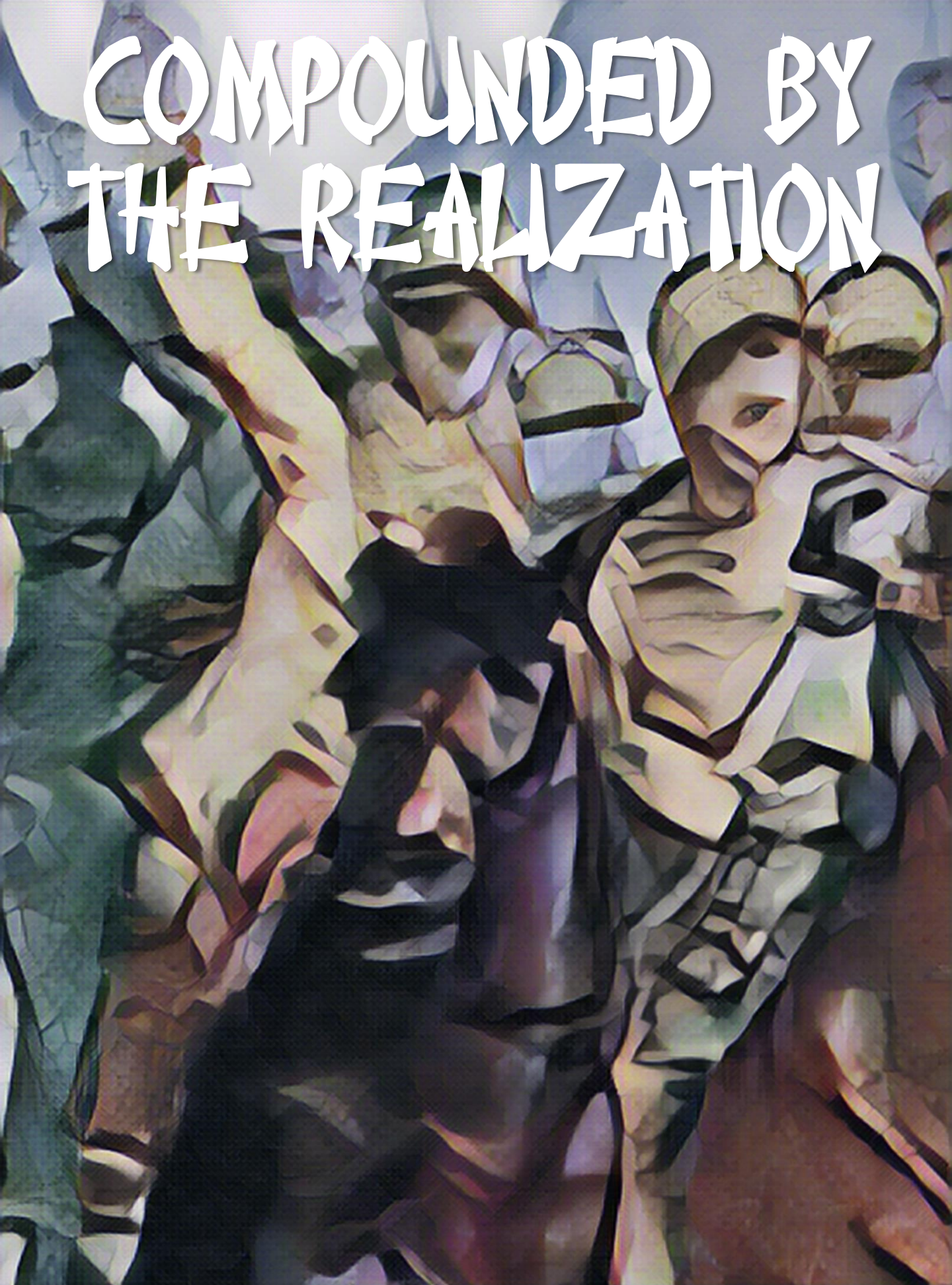


Thus, the narrative of their journey unfolded in a rather understated manner.

In both 1955 and 1965, a modest number of the previously formidable Japanese Northern Army returned to their homeland, greeted by minimal acknowledgment and, notably, the absence of any grand celebrations to mark their homecoming.

The profound significance of the events that transpired at the conclusion of the Second Great Industrial Slaughter has largely faded into obscurity, overshadowed by a contemporary world that remains uneasy about confronting the true

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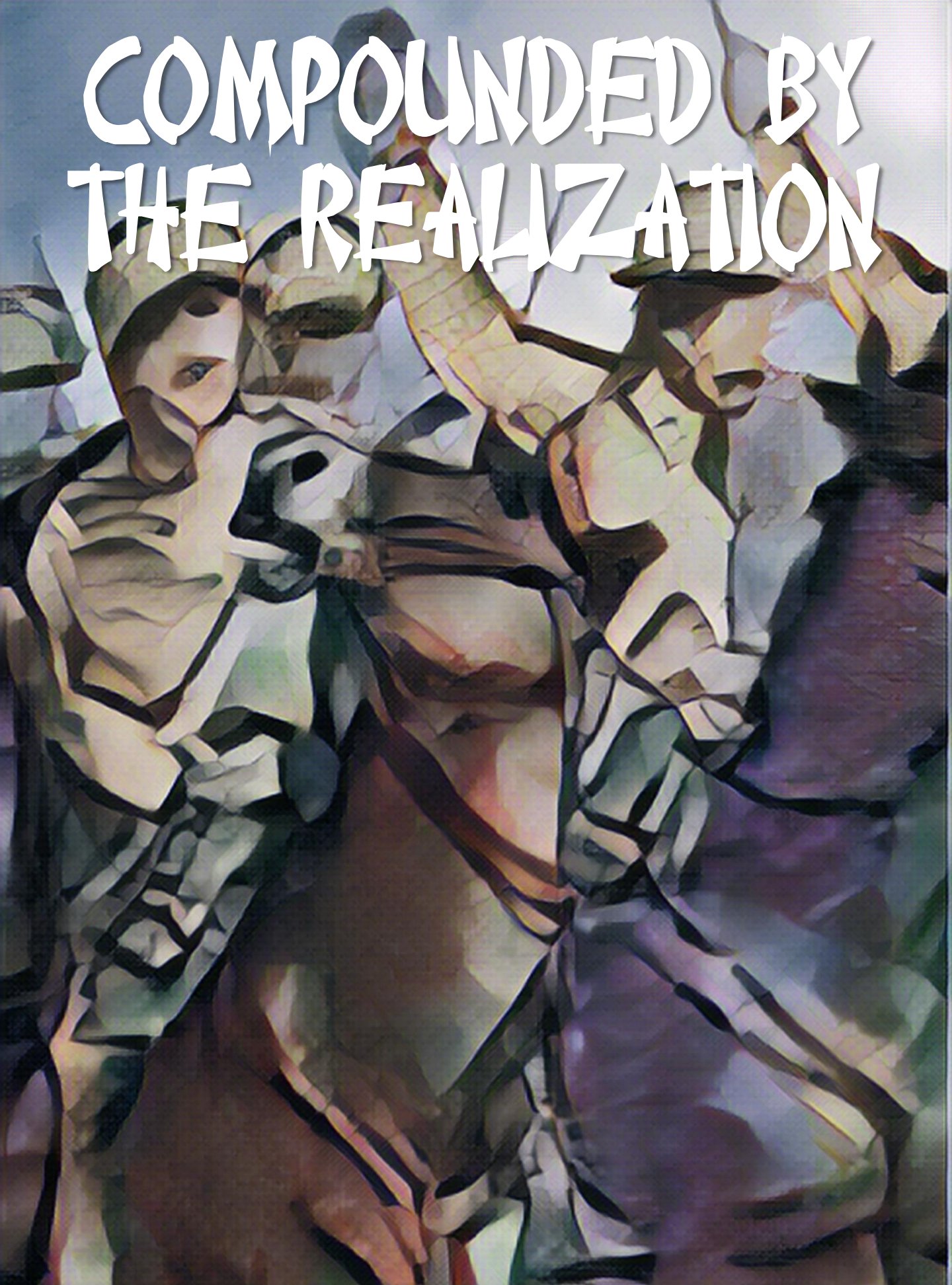


nature of the aftermath, particularly  
in relation to China.

A recent examination of modern  
historical literature briefly addressed  
this topic, yet it notably failed to  
acknowledge the plight of over six  
million Japanese Colonials and the  
subsequent fate that befell them,  
leaving a critical gap in the  
understanding of this tumultuous  
period.

Recently, I encountered a compelling  
article discussing the phenomenon  
of "War Babies," referring to the  
infants that Japanese colonial  
women entrusted to Chinese families  
for upbringing.

# COMPOUNDED BY THE REALIZATION



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This decision stemmed from their apprehension that the internment camps to which they were being relocated could bear a closer resemblance to the Nazi death camps, particularly due to the intense animosity directed towards Japanese colonizers in rural Chinese communities.

These communities had suffered significantly during the war, enduring both the physical destruction of battles and the profound loss of life, which contributed to the prevailing fears among the Japanese women regarding their children's safety and well-being.

# COMPOUNDED BY THE REALIZATION



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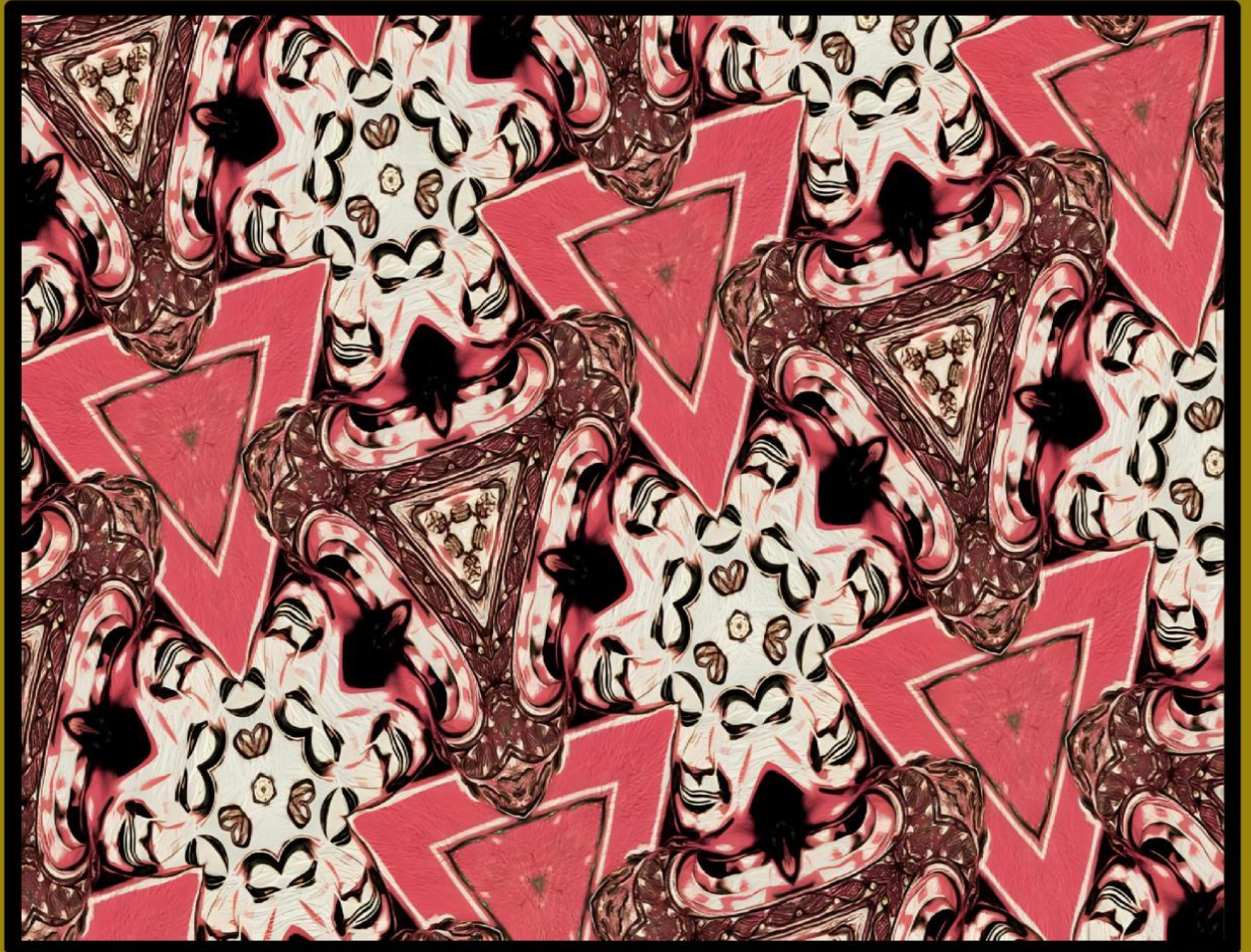
**“POSTCARDS I FORGOT TO SEND”**

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**“WHO WAS THAT MASKED  
MAN IN A THONG  
SPEEDO?”**

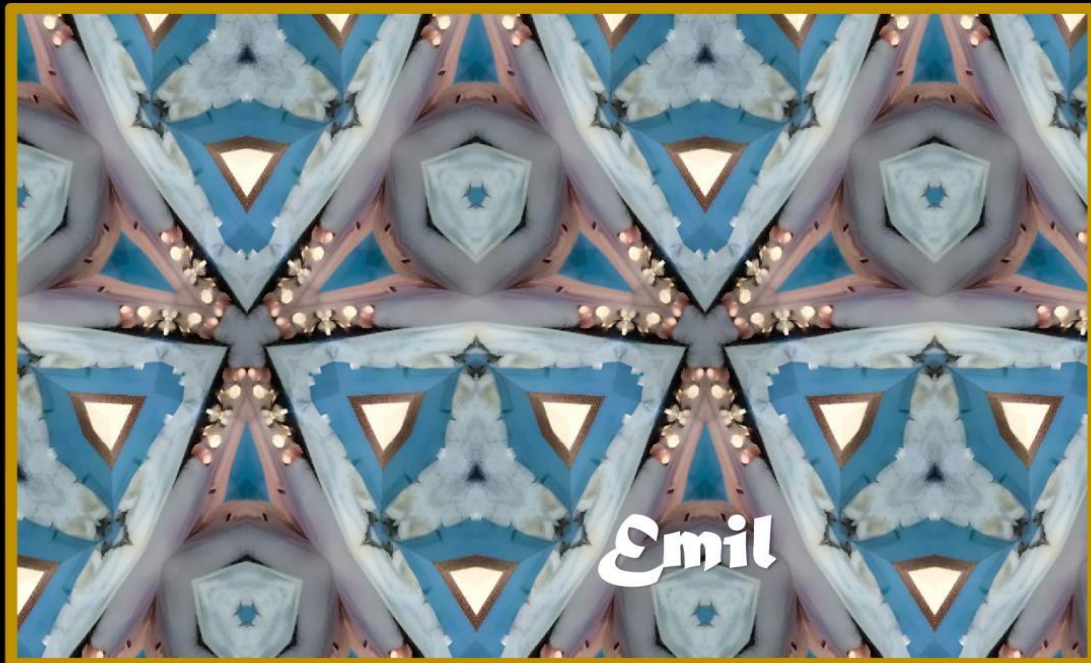
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# THE JOKE OF CHASING JACK RABBITS



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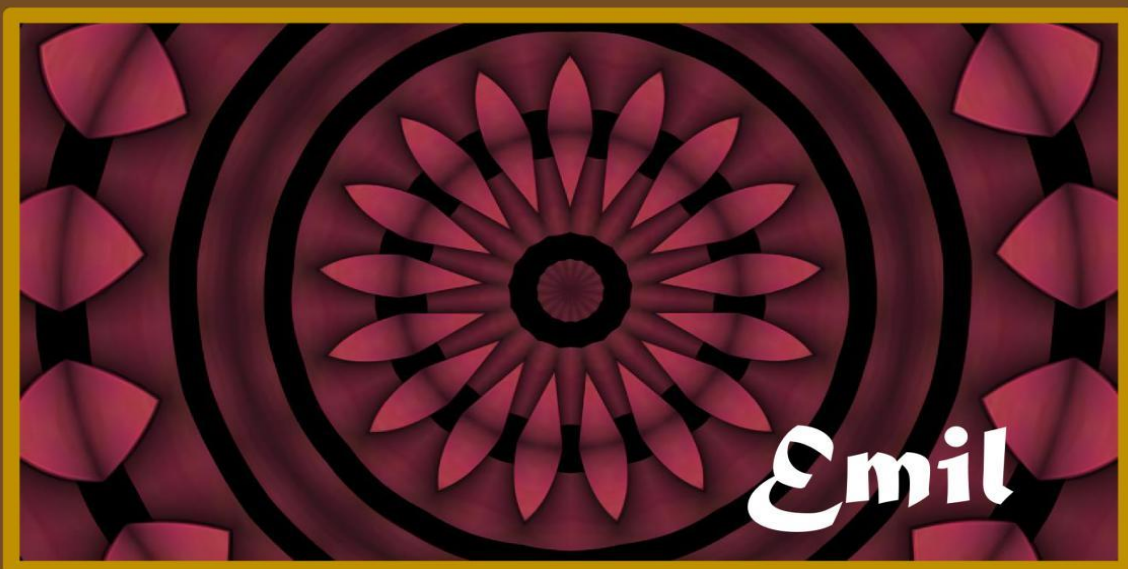
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